

Page _____

Disp. No. _____

From San Salvador _____

CONFIDENTIAL

Page _____ of _____

Dist. No. _____

Disp. No. _____

From _____

Archbishop. They will present an invitation to Cardinal Spellman to attend a Guadalupean Congress to be held in mid-December, 1953. Mrs. Ocarrio will subsequently visit Europe and will be in England for the coronation ceremonies. The official Salvadoran delegation to the coronation is made up of three local businessmen and coffee growers who will pay their own expenses.

The dry season ended on the night of April 27, when the first substantial rains fell in San Salvador.

MILITARY:

The Chief of Staff, Colonel MOLINA, in a conversation with the Army Attaché on April 30 confirmed the fact that the reserves had been alerted in February in order to improve Salvadoran military capabilities in the shortest possible period. At that time, it was feared that the ODESA meeting, then scheduled for May 2 in Guatemala City, would turn into another "Bogotazo". According to Molina, an extensive reserve training program is still being conducted on weekends at all regimental cuartels in the country but no reserves have been called back into regular service.

The Guatemalan Military Attaché in San Salvador, Col. Enrique PERALTA Azurdia, has been recalled and plans to leave San Salvador early in May. Col. Peralta believes he will receive another Attaché assignment but that it will be far removed from Central America. He is reported to have expressed the opinion privately that his recall was the result of his "sympathy for, and very close relations with, the Salvadoran Army".

The IAGS unit in El Salvador has received from the Army Map Service six work sheets of a 1/20,000 contour map covering the entire United Nations Demonstration Area in El Salvador. This area includes 900 square miles in the approximate center of El Salvador, extending from San Salvador almost to Santa Ana and North to within a few miles of the Honduran border. The maps are complete except for field editing and color printing. The Chief of the IAGS detachment estimates that field editing by the Cartographie Bureau will require approximately one month.

The 1/20,000 map series of the Salvadoran-Guatemalan border which have been prepared by the Cartographie Bureau for the Minister of Defense on a priority schedule will probably be delivered to the Defense Ministry about May 10 (Weeks no. 13, March 27, 1953). The maps have been extended as far as possible into Guatemala by radial line plots. Control is poor and the maps reportedly contain many inaccuracies. Fern lines have been used in place of contours. The Director of the Cartographie Bureau stated that the maps were "adequate

CONFIDENTIAL

Page 3 of 4

Desp. No. 692

From San Salvador

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification)

Page of

Encl. No.

Desp. No.

From

For the present needs of the Minister of Defense" but that he would want to recompile the portions within El Salvador before incorporating data in the map sections currently being prepared as a part of the official IAGS mapping program.

For the Ambassador:

Andrew E. Donovan

Andrew E. Donovan, II
Counselor of Embassy

Contributor:

Military - Lt. Col. Henry J. Muller

cc:MID
CAMissions
Mexico
Cincarb

CONFIDENTIAL